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1920. (Baltimore, Md.: Association, 1211 Cathedral St. 1921. Pp. 440.)
- Eye conservation in industry; part of the study of waste in industry conducted under the auspices of the Federated American Engineering Societies.* (New York: Eye Sight Conservation Council of America, Times Bldg. 1921. Pp. 29. 25c.)
- English prisons today: being the report of the Prison System Enquiry Committee.* (New York: Longmans, Green. 1922. \$8.50.)
- Maternity and child care in selected rural areas of Mississippi.* Child welfare series, no. 5. (Washington: Gov. Prtg. Office, Supt. Docs. 1922.)
- Physical and vocational rehabilitation of disabled men and women who are seriously injured while under the protection of the Workmen's Compensation law of Oregon.* (Portland, Oregon: State Industrial Accident Commission. 1922. Pp. 31.)
- Seventh annual report of the City Planning Board.* (Boston: City Planning Bd. 1921. Pp. 29.)
- State-wide social service in Massachusetts.* (Boston: Dept. of Public Welfare. 1921. Pp. 11.)
- Whittier social case history manual.* Research bull. no. 10. (Whittier, Calif.: California Bureau of Juvenile Research, Whittier State School. 1921. Pp. 98. 25c.)

Insurance and Pensions

NEW BOOKS

- CAHILL, J. C. and JONES, B. *Negligence and compensation cases annotated, with pleadings and forms.* Vol. XX. (Chicago: Callaghan. 1921. Pp. xlii, 1050.)
- COX, R. L. *National health in the life insurance mirror.* Address delivered at the fifteenth annual meeting of the Association of Life Insurance Presidents. (New York: Author, Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. 1922. Pp. 12.)
- GIRARD, J. *Éléments d'assurances: incendie, vie, accidents.* (Paris: Dulac Frères, Lib. des Assurances, 8, Rue Lamartine. 1921.)
- HOBBS, C. W. *The powers of casualty insurance companies.* Address delivered before the one hundred and sixty-first meeting of the Insurance Society of New York. (Boston: Commissioner of Insurance. 1922. Pp. 11.)
- MANES, A. *Versicherungs-Staatsbetrieb im Ausland. Ein Beitrag zur Frage der Sozialisierung.* Third edition. (Berlin: Sigismund. 1919. Pp. 128. 4.80 M.)

This, the third edition of Professor Manes' book on the nationalization of insurance, was written as an answer to the claim that insurance in all its branches was "ripe" for taking over by the state and for creating a national monopoly of the institution. The study covers the experience of all countries of the world and reviews the results secured in conducting state insurance in life, accident, transportation, fire, hail, cattle, industrial,

re-insurance, etc. In practically all of these fields the author finds that but indifferent success, if not complete failure, has attended the experiments. He sums up his conclusions in the following three statements:

(1) The experience of all state ventures in the field of insurance (excluding compulsory) is that attempts in competition with private companies have at best produced only moderately successful results and only in very exceptional cases have they surpassed the private institutions. (2) State monopoly institutions, in which only voluntary insurance is provided, show even less success than the preceding, most probably on account of the lack of competition. (3) State monopolies in which insurance is compulsory have produced favorable results as regards property fire insurance, but in other fields the results have been varying though for the most part unfavorable.

The reasons that led foreign countries to adopt state insurance systems were not financial; they did not expect to derive revenue from this source. In some instances it was to prevent foreign companies from taking out of the country large sums of money, in others to aid in introducing certain social insurance branches, in others to advance agriculture, in others to provide forms of insurance that private companies did not offer, etc. The author closes his study with the suggestion that the solution of the problem lies rather in making insurance ripe for heavier taxation than for nationalization.

H. J. H.

RICHARDS, E. G. *The experience grading and rating schedule. A system of fire insurance rate-making based upon average fire costs.* Revised edition. (New York: Van Nostrand. 1921. Pp. 157.)

The revised edition of *The Experience Grading and Rating Schedule* does not differ fundamentally from the first edition published in 1915. Some changes in detail have been made; there is proposed a new plan for measuring the "moral hazard" in terms of individual credit standing and fire record; and the exposition has been rearranged and decidedly improved.

Rating methods in the fire insurance business have changed but slightly since 1915 and the author continues his arraignment of existing fire insurance rates which are the result of personal judgment, bargaining power and business expediency. His principal thesis, that rates should be made by classes on the basis of ascertained loss experience, is of real interest to economists. He proposes to allocate the social cost of fire losses in such a way that the fire insurance expense connected with each class of property shall accurately reflect the fire hazard of the class. The "schedule" is a statistical plan for allocating the cost of fires. Property is to be classified by industries, construction, geographical location, adequacy of protection, surroundings, etc., and on each class the fire loss and insurance written are to be compiled. The fire loss per one hundred dollars of insurance carried on each class of property is to furnish the basis for insurance premium rates.

This volume is a valuable contribution to the literature of rate making. Experience, statistically ascertained, should unquestionably enter largely into the calculation of fire insurance rates. In practical application it would probably be necessary to modify considerably the details of Mr. Richards' scheme, but the significance of his proposal is found not so much in these details as in the thesis that experience should be the determining factor in calculating rates. More general insistence on this

principle may be expected as time goes on, particularly if governmental supervision of rates is extended, as it seems likely to be.

Accumulation of a sufficient body of experience for rate-making purposes would require at least a decade. It therefore behooves students of the business carefully to examine proposed statistical plans and to formulate a method of ascertaining experience which gives promise both of furnishing adequate data and of freedom from defects in practical operation. The length of time required for accumulation of fire insurance experience makes changes in a plan peculiarly difficult and inadvisable. Hence the necessity of careful formulation in the first instance. Even with such careful formulation application will in practice indicate the necessity of changes. A plan is to be desired which, at the start, offers the greatest flexibility in application without making impossible the combination of experience accumulated before and after its revision. The Richards "schedule" outlines the basic features of such a plan.

RALPH H. BLANCHARD.

Columbia University.

VALGREN, V. N. *Crop insurance: risks, losses, and principles of protection*. Dept. Agri. bull. no. 1043. (Washington: Gov. Prtg. Office, Supt. Docs. 1922. Pp. 27. 5c.)

Digest of workmen's compensation laws in the United States and territories, with annotations. Seventh edition, revised to Dec. 1, 1921. Compiled by F. R. JONES. (New York: Workmen's Compensation Publicity Bureau. 1921. Pp. 389.)

Fire insurance in New England for ten years, December 31, 1911, to December 31, 1920, inclusive. Twenty-second edition. (Boston: The Standard Pub. Co. 1921. Pp. 304.)

Lengthening life through insurance health work. A study of the trends of mortality among policy-holders in the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, Industrial Department, and the United States registration area, 1911 to 1920. (New York: Metropolitan Life Ins. Co. 1922. Pp. 11.)

Sixteenth annual report of the President and of the Treasurer of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. (New York: The Foundation, 522 Fifth Ave. Pp. 205.)

Part VI deals with pension systems and pension legislation including a brief discussion of industrial pensions.

Pauperism, Charities, and Relief Measures

Poverty and Dependency: Their Relief and Prevention. By JOHN LEWIS GILLIN. (New York: The Century Company. 1921. Pp. 707. \$4.00.)

Professor Gillin has added a very valuable book to the literature on problems of poverty. It is a careful digest of the material in this field and is thoroughly permeated with a sane and progressive philosophy. *Poverty and Dependency* is much more comprehensive than the title implies. It is divided into five parts dealing respectively with the Problems of Poverty, Causes of Poverty, Methods of Relief, Special